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Selectmen's Minutes 12-08-2008

TOWN OF ARLINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Meeting Minutes
 Monday, December 8, 2008
 7:15 p.m.

Present: Ms. Rowe, Chair, Mr. Hurd, Vice Chair, Mr. Greeley, Mrs. Mahon, and Ms. LaCourt.
 Also present: Mr. Sullivan, Ms. Rice, and Mrs. Sullivan.

6:00 p.m.

Budget & Revenue Task Force Meeting

Refer to Budget Revenue Task Force Minutes for information on the meeting

7:15 p.m.

1. Property Classification - Tax Rate

Mr. Kevin Feeley, Board of Assessors, presented the process on the levy total to be raised and the tax rate.

After some discussion by the Selectmen and Mr. Gordon Jamieson, resident of 163 Scituate St., of the impact of changing classification, state owned land, utility pole assessment process, and evaluations, the Board unanimously agreed to stay the course and keep classification the same.

Mr. Greeley moved that the Board of Selectmen adopt a minimum residential tax rate of factor 1.~

SO VOTED (5-0)

FOR APPROVAL

2. CONSENT AGENDA (one vote required for approval of all items)

a. Reappointment: Cyrus E. Dallin Art Museum, Board of Trustees

Heather Leavell

(term to expire 12/8/2011)

Mr. Greeley moved approval.

SO VOTED (5-0)

b. Reappointment: Arlington Preservation Fund

Clark L. Griffith

Patrick L. Guthrie

(terms to expire 7/2011)

Mr. Greeley moved approval.

SO VOTED (5-0)

c. Request: Punjab Late Night Event, 12/31/08

Jaspal Pabla, Punjab Restaurant, 485 Massachusetts Avenue

Mr. Mahon moved approval.

SO VOTED (5-0)

d. Request: Mr. Sushi Change of Hours

Hae Hyung Ahn, 693 Massachusetts Avenue

Mr. Mahon moved approval.

SO VOTED (5-0)

APPOINTMENTS

3. Appointment: Arlington Historic District Commissions

David J. Levy

(term to expire 12/8/2011)

Mr. Greeley moved approval.

SO VOTED (5-0)

8:00 p.m.

4. Debt Shift

Ms. LaCourt moved to shift \$5,593,112.00 of the total water and sewer debt to the tax rate.

SO VOTED (5-0)

5. **CITIZENS OPEN FORUM**

There were no matters presented for consideration of the Board.

TRAFFIC RULES & ORDERS/OTHER BUSINESS

6. Approval: Bike Rack Installations in Business Areas

Ms. Glushko, Town Planner, explained the MAPC bike rack program that pays back the cost of the bike rack. The plan calls for installation of 30 to 40 racks in 20 different locations. Ms. Glushko will be formally contacting the business community and the Park & Recreation Commission for further outreach on the rack installations. The Selectmen also asked Ms. Glushko to research having more racks installed under this program.

Arlington Bicycle Advisory Committee

Mr. Hurd moved approval.

SO VOTED (5-0)

7. For Approval: Zipcar Proposal

Annie LaCourt, Selectman

Ms. LaCourt moved to table this item until the December 15th meeting. SO VOTED (5-0)

Correspondence Received

Kerrie Fallon

Concerns Re: Summer Street Project

Be Rec'd

Chair

Accessible Pedestrian Signals

Commission on Disability

Ms. LaCourt moved receipt of correspondence.

SO VOTED (5-0)

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. LaCourt is meeting with the Mayor of Cambridge to discuss the Energy Leadership Council and why Arlington is so successful. Ms. LaCourt will have an energy presentation for the Selectmen at a future meeting.

Ms. LaCourt announced there will be a Menorah lighting at the Mason's Hall, Saturday, 2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

Mr. Hurd would like the Town to research solar energy for town buildings.

Mr. Hurd reported that last week's Snow & Ice Meeting was good and they believe the list of contractors needed for snow plowing will be complete by the next meeting. Mr. Hurd asked Mr. Sullivan to communicate to Mr. Bean the compromise sidewalk-clearing plan as discussed at Town Meeting.

Mr. Hurd in regards to the bike path asked Mr. Sullivan to compile a pedestrian safety sheet with recommendations and measures to enforce. A sub-committee will be working on fundraising for bike path clearing, perhaps utilizing a similar program as the traffic islands.

Mr. Hurd congratulated the Arlington Catholic Football team on their state championship win. Mr. Hurd also wanted to thank both coaches, AHS and ACHS, for the first annual Thanksgiving Day game. He also thanked Karen Zoller and Mrs. Fitzgerald for collecting food for the food pantry that day.

Mr. Hurd reiterated that he would act as mediator at a dog meeting between the pro and con groups and that all current bylaws are to be upheld until further changes. Ms. Rowe reported that 4 dog meetings have been held this past fall and there will be one meeting left for January. Plans are on the website and after a final plan is adopted at the January meeting a warrant article will be submitted to be voted on at Town Meeting.

Mr. Hurd asked the Selectmen to vote to reverse 2 parking spaces (one handicap and one regular) in front of Caldwell Banker on Mass. Ave., so that the handicap space isn't situated along side a tree.

SO VOTED

(5-0)

Mr. Hurd also wanted to repeat the message that the Town needs to be prepared with a list of projects if appropriations become available. Mr. Sullivan responded that there is a list and he'll distribute it to the Selectmen in their packets. He also thanked and congratulated the Planning Department for the outstanding work on the Mass. Ave. Corridor Project.

Mr. Sullivan reported to the Selectmen that the Congressman Markey meeting was a good information session to update on process and projects, especially transportation issues.

Mr. Sullivan announced the new usage by the Police Department of a police scooter and hybrid police car.

Mr. Greeley made a motion that the Selectmen congratulate and honor the Arlington Catholic Football Team for their State Championship win, by inviting the team to attend a meeting and presenting a proclamation.

SO

VOTED (5-0)

Mr. Greeley offered condolences to the Babine Family on the death of Larry Babine this past week.

Mr. Greeley announced the Selectones sing a long times: December 14th at 6:45 p.m. at Drake Village and December 22nd at 6:45 p.m. at Winslow Towers. All are invited to attend and join in the fun.

Mrs. Mahon asked Mr. Sullivan to research the regional purchase/Arlington's purchase of a snow melter or any other solution towards the elimination of snow during the winter.

Mrs. Mahon announced that Lexington would be clearing their bike path through private funding. She will facilitate talks with Lexington to see if there are ideas on cost savings the towns can share.

Mrs. Mahon stated that she was getting very aggravated by remarks from the Redevelopment Board on issues that are under the control of the Board of Selectmen. Ms. Rowe said that she's been in touch with Andrew West to set up a joint meeting. Mr. Hurd would like any comments from boards or committees to be done formally from that board to the Selectmen.

Mrs. Mahon wants the School Committee list of budget cuts to be put in all Selectmen packets this week.

Ms. Rowe invited the Selectmen to a meeting with the Arlington Youth Health and Safety Coalition, Christine Sharkey and Colleen Ledger, this Thursday at 11:00 a.m.

Ms. Rowe reported:

- with agreement from the Selectmen she would like to forward direction to TAC to include with Safe Routes to School to research bike racks on Town property not School property. The bike community is very interested and the Schools are very against children and bikes at schools with the amount of car commuters. Ms. LaCourt offered to talk to Alan Brown at Stratton regarding biking to school.
- that Andrew West, Redevelopment Board, will be coming to a future meeting on the Symmes development extension.
- that she will circulate a draft DCR letter on the Alewife issues prior to sending. She will also circulate a matrix of Alewife issues listing the responsible decision maker.
- that she and Kevin O'Brien, Planning Director, went to a Cambridge Con Com meeting on development at the Faces property and Arthur D. Little property. She would like to get a letter to Cambridge Con Com on the Faces property (not yet voted on by

the Con Com) on the problems and impact the development poses for the Lake Street area of Arlington.

- Rep. Sean Garballey is meeting with the Mayor of Somerville on the Dilboy Field issues affecting Arlington.
- the DCR has added the bridge over Alewife by the Mystic Valley Drive on to an accelerated repair list.
- the First Lights kick off event went well and reminded everyone to Shop Arlington First. Also a thank you to Bill Armstrong for donating to light the Center of Town during this holiday season.

Executive Session

Mrs. Mahon requested that the Board convene in executive session for the purpose of discussing strategy in respect to collective bargaining where an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the government's bargaining or litigating position.

Mrs. Mahon moved to convene into Executive Session at 9:08 p.m. for the above purpose.

Roll Call:

Ms. Rowe: yes
Mr. Hurd: yes
Ms. LaCourt: yes
Mrs. Mahon: yes
Mr. Greeley: yes

Mr. Greeley moved to adjourn executive session at 9:25 p.m. and reconvene to the Selectmen meeting.

Roll Call:

Ms. Rowe: yes
Mr. Hurd: yes
Ms. LaCourt: yes
Mrs. Mahon: yes
Mr. Greeley: yes

The Board reconvened in open session at 9:25 p.m.

Mrs. Mahon moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 p.m.

A true record: Attest:
Mary Ann Sullivan

Next meeting of BOS December 15, 2008